

Secretary Mr. K. Narayanan Pandalay:—

"Sir, With reference to interpellation No. II. of Mr. Marasseri Trivikramar Vasudevar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th July 1920, I beg to lay on the table the required statement showing the number of suits relating to the Jenmom tenure during the last five years, 1090—1094."

Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar:—

"Sir, With reference to interpellation No. I (a) of Mr. Adam Sait at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th July 1920, I beg to lay on the table a statement showing the total number of Hindus, Christians and Mohamedars in the public service, drawing a salary of Rs. 10 and above.

Interpellation.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan.

1. (a) Will the Government be pleased to order the removal of notice-boards standing on the public roads, leading to and around the temples of Vaikam, Ambalapuzha and Tirunakkara (Kottayam), several yards off the outer walls thereof, prohibiting expressly or virtually a large majority of His Highness' Hindu subjects from using the roads, for such prohibition, besides causing great personal inconvenience to the people concerned, is now looked upon as an anachronism and a standing insult to their self-respect as citizens?

(b) Will the Government be further pleased to lay on the table a list of such notice-boards, if any, in regard to the other temples under Government management, containing the following particulars:—

- (1) the place where the board stands;
- (2) the distance between it and the temple concerned or the outer wall thereof;
- (3) the nature of the prohibition; and
- (4) the date of the notice and the name and designation of the officer who signed it?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to deal with them according to the circumstances in due course, prohibition against any class of people entering a particular temple, if found necessary, being enforced by putting up a notice at the gate thereof?

2. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement of appointments, permanent or otherwise, carrying a salary of Rs. 10 or upwards, made by the various Heads of Departments, during the last five years ending with Karkadakam 1095, showing the total number thereof and their distribution among the following communities:—

- (1) Brahmins;
- (2) Nairs;
- (3) Other Hindus;
- (4) Christians; and
- (5) Mahomedans?

3. (i) Are the Government aware—

(a) that teachers of the grant-in-aid Elementary Schools form the majority of the thousands employed in the State as Elementary School teachers;

(b) that the pay they are given at present generally is Sr. Rs. (6) six per mensem

Answer.

Secretary Mr. K. Narayanan Pandalay.

1. (a) The general policy of the Government has been to throw open all public highways to all communities. The question of the user of the roads referred to by the member will be examined in the light of this policy.

(b) The information required by the member will be called for.

(c) The member is referred to the policy of the Government enunciated in the answer to question 1 (a).

Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.

2. The statement now being laid on the table in accordance with the answer given to question 4 (a) asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th July 1920, gives to a certain extent the information asked for. As the labour involved in the collection of the further statistics required by the member is disproportionate to the value of the information to be obtained, the Government do not propose to call for further information.

3. (i) (a) The Government have no accurate information regarding the number of teachers employed in private schools and do not propose to call for it.

(b) The Government have no authoritative information as to the salaries now being paid to Elementary School teachers in grant-in-aid institutions. The only information

Interpellation.

i. e. as 3 p. 2 *per diem*, the minimum daily wages of an ordinary cooly at present being not less than annas eight ;

(c) that their educational qualification is the same as that of those employed in the Departmental Schools whose minimum pay at present is Rs 12; and

(d) that they have no pension or bonus to look for, that they are not allowed any sort of leave with pay and that they are not even secure in their place at present, as the managers often turn them out of service at their will and pleasure ?

(ii) If they are so aware, do they propose to do anything in the direction of encouraging the teachers by arranging for adequate pay and other privileges being given to them and thus to relieve these thousands of unhappy yet useful individuals from their present miserable lot, in the interests of mass-education in the State ?

Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai for
Mr. S. Adam Sait.

4. (a) Is it a fact that the manufacture of salt in the old factories is declining ? If so, have the Government consulted any expert to find out the cause of such decline ?

(b) What are the rates fixed by the Government for home and foreign salt to be sold in the various depôts of the State per bag of 2 maunds ?

(c) Are the Government aware of the fact that salt is sold in the State by merchants at higher rates than the Government rates ? If so, what action has been taken by the authorities concerned to check such sale ?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to state why the system of selling salt in retail in the Bankshalls, which was more convenient and profitable to the people and to the Government, was stopped ?

(e) Will the Government be pleased to resume the old system of retail sales of salt in the different depôts, which would be very beneficial to the people and the Government ?

Answer.

now before Government is that the grant-in-aid given by them towards the pay of such teachers is Rs. 6 per month per head.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have, no information.

(ii) The question of improving the position of the teachers in aided schools is one for the consideration of the managers of those institutions.

4. (a) Yes. The Government have examined the question departmentally, and in the light of the information before them, they do not consider that consultation with an expert is called for.

(b) The following are the selling prices fixed by the Government for home and foreign salt in the various depôts of the State :—

Name of depot.	Kind of salt.	Price per bag of two maunds.
		Rs. as. p.
Quilon.	Tuticorin.	4 4 0
Alleppey.	Bombay.	5 7 0
	Home.	4 6 0
Munnambam.	Bombay.	4 4 0

(c) Yes. The retail rates at which merchants sell salt must necessarily be higher than the wholesale rates at which salt is sold to them at the Government depôts.

(d) The system referred to was given up because, in the opinion of the Government, it was neither convenient nor profitable to the public and also because the Government did not wish to maintain a monopoly in the sales of salt.

(e) In view of the answer to question 4 (d), Government do not propose to resume the retail sale of salt.